

## Additional Kinship Care Resources

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- Food Share  
Phone: (888) 794-5556  
Hours: Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Child Support  
Phone: (608) 847-2400  
Hours: Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Wisconsin Works (W-2)  
Phone: (608) 350-0300  
Hours: Thursday by  
appointment only
- Medical Assistance  
Phone: (888) 794-5556  
Hours: Monday-Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Wisconsin Department of  
Children and Families Website  
<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/kinship>

## Juneau County Department of Human Services

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220 E. LaCrosse St. Rm 23.  
Mauston, WI 53948  
Phone: (608) 847-2400  
Fax: (608) 847-9576

Hours:  
Monday-Friday  
8: 00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

## Juneau County Department of Human Services

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## Kinship Care Program

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*Grandparents and other relatives  
raising children.*

## What is Kinship Care?

Kinship Care is a program to help support a child who lives outside his or her home with a relative. The child may be living temporarily or long term with a relative such as:

- An adult brother or sister
- A first or second cousin
- A nephew or niece
- An uncle or aunt
- A grandparent
- A step-parent
- Others by blood or marriage

Kinship Care helps families support a child in the home of a relative that might be under stress or when the child has experienced abuse or neglect. With this support, placing a child in a foster home or another out-of-home care setting may be avoided. For a child in the child welfare system who cannot continue living at home with his or her parents, Kinship Care may be another placement option.

## Kinship Eligibility Requirements

There are three basic eligibility requirements for Kinship Care:

- The basic needs of the child can be met by the relative.
- The placement and living arrangement is in the best interest of the child.
- The child currently or may be in need of protection or services if the child were to remain with his or her parent(s).

### Other requirements include:

- A completed application.
- A criminal background check on the relative caregiver and all adult household members.
- Cooperation with the agency by the relative caregiver.
- The relative caregiver must apply for other public assistance or benefits the child might be eligible for.
- The relative caregiver must cooperate with referring the parents to child support, unless the relative caregiver is granted an exception by the agency.
- Kinship living arrangements and eligibility must be reviewed every 12 months by the agency.

## Types of Kinship Care

- Voluntary Kinship
- Court Ordered Kinship
- Long-Term Kinship

### Kinship Care Payments

The amount of Kinship Care payment that can be provided for a child is determined by Wisconsin Law. For 2016 and 2017, the Kinship Care rate is \$232.00 a month. The payment is to help with the care and maintenance of a child.

### Interested in Kinship Care?

If you are interested in Kinship Care and would like additional information, please contact:

**Kayla Heck, CSW**

**Foster Care/ Kinship Care Coordinator**

**608-847-9288**

**[kheck@co.juneau.wi.us](mailto:kheck@co.juneau.wi.us)**